



PARTNERSHIPS FOR A
SKILLED WORKFORCE

Idaho Professional-Technical Education Foundation, Incorporated

P.O. Box 1602
Boise, Idaho 83701-1602
Phone (208) 334-3216
www.idahoptef.org

TRANSMITTAL # 3

MEMORANDUM

August 12, 2003

TO: Workforce Development Council

The following is provided for your information:

Date: June 3, 2003

To: PTE Administrators and Faculty

From: Dorothy Witmer, PTE Foundation President 

Subject: Business Support for Professional-Technical Education

The support and involvement of business and industry has always been the cornerstone of quality professional-technical education. The enclosed resolution prepared by the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium provides our business partners with an opportunity to express their support.

The resolution is available for businesses that hire graduates from PTE programs, serve as members of technical advisory committees and others who are simply interested in a well-prepared workforce. The deadline for turning in the resolution is the end of the summer.

We would appreciate knowing who in Idaho is signing, so it would be helpful if you could let us know who completes the form. Businesses can also fill out the forms on line if they prefer. The resolution is on the website.

We think this is not only an opportunity to join in a national effort to demonstrate the importance of career technical education in the preparation of a competitive workforce, but also an opportunity to check signals with our own business community, making sure we are meeting their needs. We appreciate your efforts to this end.

Thanks for another great year of PTE in Idaho.

Idaho Professional-Technical Education Information

In Idaho, professional-technical education (PTE) is designed to provide learners with opportunities to explore career paths and gain technical skills. We have learned that a strong PTE system that integrates technical and academic skill attainment can help sustain Idaho's economy, which depends on having a highly skilled workforce. Many programs in the state are meeting these demands, in part, by implementing the rigorous provisions of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act (Perkins Act). The last time Congress updated this law was in 1998, and legislators plan to revisit this statute in the near future.

In an effort to demonstrate business support for the nation's career technical education (CTE) system, of which PTE in Idaho is a part, the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium developed a business resolution (see attachment) describing CTE as a tool to meet workforce needs. In the fall, this resolution and its list of business supporters will be used to demonstrate the widespread support for CTE.

Why do we need this resolution?

Too often we hear that businesses are not able to find the skilled workers that they need. The press is reporting that our nation's students are falling short in the core academic subjects when compared to their international counterparts. As the resolution states, we believe career technical education is a critical component in helping to solve these problems. This resolution seeks to:

- Demonstrate that the career technical education system is valued and supported by the business community;
- Express the business community's strong belief that career technical education prepares students with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in today's economy; and
- Highlight the critical role that career technical education plays in our nation's economic and homeland security.

How will your support, company name and information be used?

By filling out the attached form, your organization is lending its support to the resolution. The contact information provided will remain confidential. We will compile an alphabetical listing of all companies that support the resolution. We will also provide additional information in aggregate form only. The information to be aggregated will be: number of employees, revenue, type of company and primary industry area. This information will help us demonstrate the variety and breadth of companies that support career technical education.

This resolution, accompanied by the alphabetical listing of companies and aggregated company profile information, will be unveiled at a press event scheduled for this fall. The purpose of the press event is to showcase the value the business community places in the nation's career technical education system. Everyone who completes a support form will receive a copy of the final resolution, as well as related press materials.

Your continued support for PTE programs in Idaho is greatly appreciated.

Return your completed form to: NASDCTEc, 444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 830, Washington, DC, 20001; fax: 202-737-1106 or via the web at www.careertech.org/petition.asp. Deadline: Friday, August 29, 2003

Business Resolution

America's future depends upon a highly skilled and educated workforce.

Since 1917 the federal government has continually invested in the development of our nation's youth and adults in the acquisition of skills necessary to be successful in the workforce by supporting career technical education. This ongoing investment directly impacts the employer community's productivity and the nation's ability to compete in the global economy. Our organization lends its name to this petition in order to express our strong support for career technical education and the federal government's continued investment in this system. Our support is based on our belief that career technical education:

- effectively partners with the employer community at the state and local levels and through career technical student organizations;
- prepares students at the secondary, postsecondary and adult levels with the necessary academic, technical and employability skills required to be successful in the workforce;
- contributes to and is vital to our nation's economic and national security; and
- is a leader in economic development, workforce development and education reform strategies.

A federal investment in career technical education is a wise and necessary investment in the future of our nation's students, workers and economy.

Yes, add my organization's name to this effort to increase awareness and support of career technical education.

Contact: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number of Employees: _____

Annual revenue (last fiscal year): _____

Would you categorize your organization as a... (check one)

Small-sized Business
(less than 25 employees)

Medium-sized Business
(25 to 100 employees)

Large-sized Business
(100+ employees)

What industry area is your organization's primary focus? (check one)

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
Architecture and Construction
Arts, AV/Technology and Communications
Business, Management and Administration

Hospitality and Tourism
Human Services
Information Technology
Law, Public Safety and Security